

## Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

INRE-00 SCA-01 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 VO-03 /028 W

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O 111330Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7135

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3493

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPAS CVIS HU

SUBJ: TOURIST VISA FOR VOA STAFFER MICHAEL HOGYE

REF: (A) STATE 251173 (B) BUDAPEST 3492

1. IN LOOKING INTO THE BACKGROUND OF VOA STAFFER MICHAEL HOGYE, WE WERE ASTONISHED TO DISCOVER THAT FROM 1942-1944 HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE HUNGARIAN LEGATION IN BERLIN (SEE BIOGRAPHIC REGISTER, PAGE 153, ISSUE OF JULY, 1974). IN OUR VIEW THIS MORTALLY COMPROMISES OUR PROSPECTS FOR REVERSING GOH DECISION TO DENY HIM A VISA. WHILE GOH HAS SHOWN SOME FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH CASES OF FIFTYSIXERS (E.G.

TAKACS CASE) IT HAS ABSOLUTELY NO SYMPATHY FOR THOSE WHO SERVED CAUSE OF HITLER AND HORTHY.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AND USIA ARE AWARE, NOT TOO LONG AGO IN CONVERSATION WITH USIA ASST DIRECTOR FOR EUROPE, JOHN SHIRLEY, DEPUTY FONMIN NAGY AGREED NOT TO REJECT OUT OF HAND VISA APPLICATIONS OF VOA STAFFERS BUT TO CONSIDER THEM ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. TO APPROACH FONOFF PRESS SECTION ON BEHALF OF HOGYE IN OUR VIEW (A) WOULD DAMAGE OUR PROSPECTS FOR POSITIVE RESPONSES IN CASES OF FUTURE APPLICATIONS OF OTHER VOA STAFFERS BECAUSE OF OUR UNCRI-TICAL REPORT FOR HOGYE CASE; (B) WOULD EMBARRASS THE EMBASSY BY PUTTING IT INTO POSITION OF SUPPORTING A VISA APPLICATION OF A MAN WHO SERVED AS A DIPLOMATIC OFFICIAL

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OF A GOVERNMENT ALLIED TO NAZI GERMANY, AND IN HITLER'S

CAPITAL TO BOOT: (C) WOULD NOT RESULT IN CHANGE OF ATTITUDE ON PART OF GOH.

3. WITH OUR POLITICAL AND CONSULAR RELATIONS AT AN ALL-TIME POSTWAR HIGH WE SEE NO POINT IN RISKING DAMAGE TO THESE ACHIEVEMENTS BY PURSUING HOGYE CASE FURTHER. ACCORDINGLY, UNLESS INSTRUCTED BY DEPARTMENT TO CONTRARY, WE DO NOT PLAN TO TAKE UP MATTER AGAIN WITH FONOFF AS WE INDICATED WE WOULD IN REFTEL (B).  
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